

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5069
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6326

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, RE, CSCE
SUBJ: GDR MEDIA DOWNPLAYS VOLKSKAMMER SPEECHES ON HUMAN
RIGHTS

REF: BERLIN 6310

1. PRESS TREATMENT OF VOLKSKAMMER SPEECHES (REFTEL)
APPEARING IN CENTRAL PRESS JUNE 17 PROVIDE MAIN POINTS OF GDR
ARGUMENTATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT TONE OF REPORTING, WHICH
PROVIDES SELECTED QUOTES AND NOT VERBATIM TEXT OF VOLKSKAMMER
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SPEECHES, IS Milder THAN SPEECHES AS DELIVERED JUNE 16.

2. PAGE 3 PRESS REPORTS, UNDER HEADLINES WHICH INCLUDE THE
TERM "HUMAN RIGHTS", STATE THAT THE GDR'S NEW LABOR CODE
REPRESENTS IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS
EMBODIED IN THE UN CHARTER, THAT "IMPERIALIST CIRCLES" ARE
WAGING A "CAMPAIGN OF SLANDER", AND THESE SAME CIRCLES

BELIEVE THEY CAN EXPLOIT THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION IN PURSUIT OF IDEOLOGICAL DIVERSION OF SOCIALISM. IN COMPARISON TO SPEECHES, PRESS REPORTS SFTEN THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AND THE UNITED STATES.

3. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ALSO GAVE ONLY PARTIAL COVERAGE OF FONMIN FISCHER'S VOLKSKAMMER SPEECH ON THE RATIFICATION OF THE GDR'S NEW TREATIES WITH HUNGARY AND POLAND. WHILE HIS STATEMENTS ON THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE ARE REPORTED, ND OMITTS HIS COMMENTS ON THE QA AND WEST BERLIN. ACCORDING TO ND, FISCHER DECLARED THAT BELGRADE WILL SHOWN WHO FAVORS A CONSTRUCTIVE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON IMPLEMENTING THE FINAL ACT, AND WHO SEEKS A CONFRONTATIN DETRIMENTAL TO DETENTE. HE WARNED THAT THOSE WHO FAVOR DETENTE SHOULD NOT GIVE IN TO "UNPRINCIPLED INSINUATIONS" AND SHOULD RESPECT THE PRINCIPLES OF SOVEREIGNTY AND NON-INTERFERENCE. MAINTAINING THAT THE SOCIALIST STATES ARE FOR THIS APPROACH, FISCHER DID NOT THREATEN RETALIATION AT BELGRADE.

4. IN HIS REMARKS ON WEST BERLIN OMITTED IN THE ND ACCOUNT, FISCHER SPOKE OF BOTH THE "STRICT OBSERVANCE" AND "FULL APPLICATION" OF THE QA. HE QUOTED HONECKER TO THE EFFECT THAT THE QA HAD PROVIDED AN ADVANTAGEIOUS SOLUTION FOR ALL CONCERNED TO QUESTIONS INVOLVING WEST BERLIN. HE ALSO REPEATED THE NOW FAMILIAR FORMULATION, CONTAINED IN BOTH HE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH TREATIES, THAT THE SOCIALIST STATES WILL MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP THEIR TIES (VERBINDUNGEN) TO WEST BERLIN ON THE BASIS THAT WEST BERLIN IS NOT PART OF THE FRG AND SHALL NOT BE GOVERNED BY IT. CONFIDENTIAL

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5. COMMENT: THE GDR HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED TO RESTRICT PUBLIC COVERAGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS CRITICISMS VOICED AT THE JUNE 16 VOLKSKAMMER MEETING. THIS FACT, ALONG WIH ND'S EMPHASIS ON FISCHER'S MODERATE STATEMENTS ON BELGRADE A THE EXPENSE OF HIS MORE HARD LINE COMMENTS ON BERLIN, ALL INDICATE THAT THE GDR STILL SEEKS TO AVOID UNNECESSARY CONTROVERSY AS THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE BEGINS. POLANSKY

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